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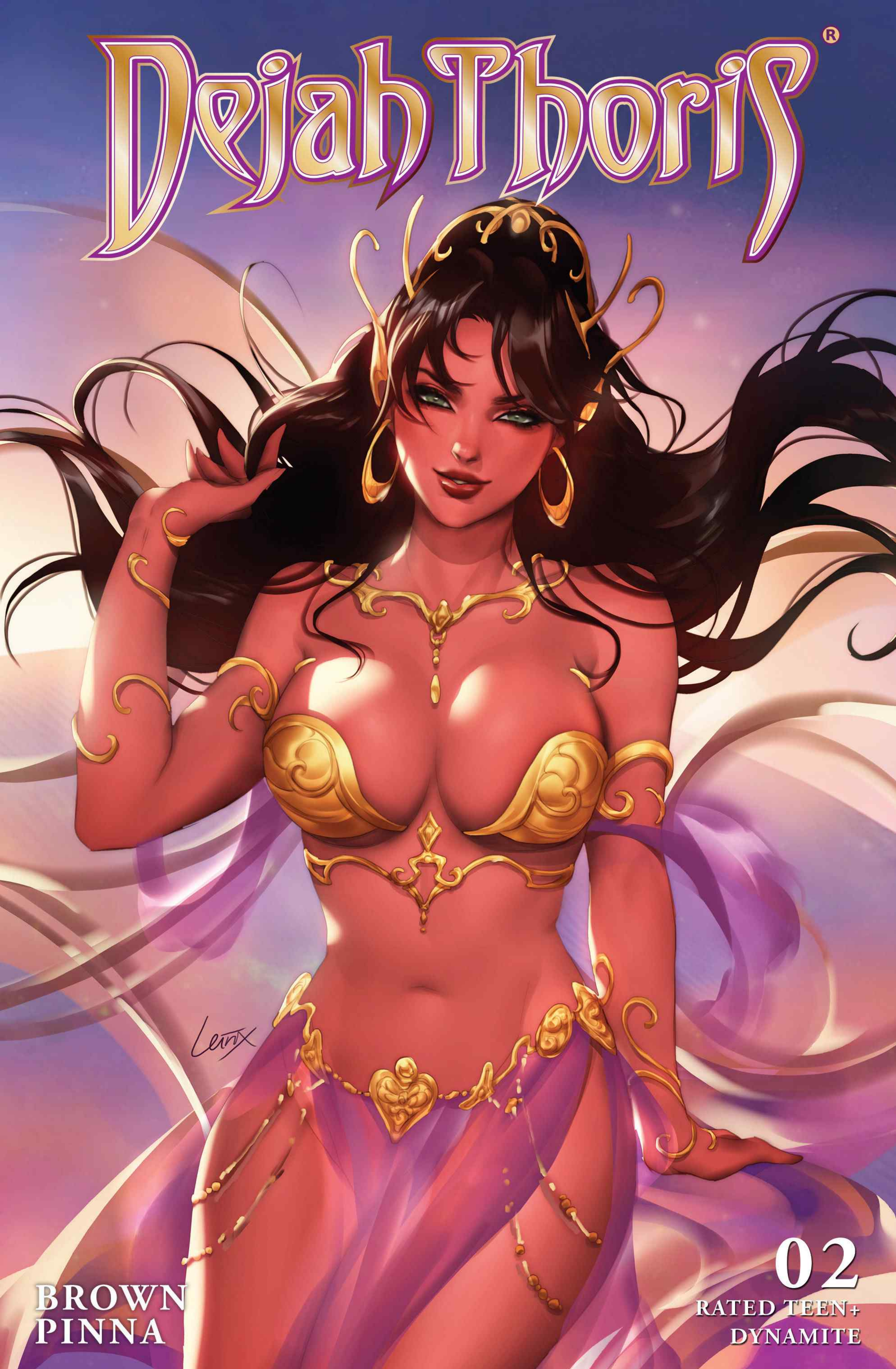

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see back of book for all variant covers

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Deep in the Helium Forest.

WE CAN'T JUST *LEAVE* HIM, PRINCESS.

YES, WE CAN, HIS KIND WOULD KILL US ON SIGHT, RROO. LET THE CALOT TREE HAVE HIM.

YNG HOXP EDLP FGNGU UHG ZDO?

YNG HOXP EDLP FGNGU UHG ZDO?

WE CAN'T CONDEMN A YOUNGLING TO DEATH BECAUSE WE ARE AT WAR WITH THE GREEN MARTIANS.

HE'S CRYING OUT FOR HELP.

YOU SPEAK ITS *LANGUAGE?!*

I TRY AND UNDERSTAND THE CULTURES OF ALL THAT LIVE ON BARSOOM.

THE MORE I LEARN, THE MORE I SEE THAT WE ARE ALL CONNECTED.

NOW, MAY I *PLEASE* HAVE YOUR PERMISSION TO HELP THE GREEN YOUNGLING?

NO.

VERY WELL--

YOU CAN PUNISH ME LATER FOR DISOBEYING YOUR WISHES!

RELEASE THE YOUNGLING, DEVILS!

SIGH

SLASH

RUN, YOUNGLING!

YOUR OFFER IS *TEMPTING*, RED GIRL!

ALAS, I AM *NOT* A *COWARD!*

EEEEEIIIYAAAA!

CHUK!

RRRAAAHHHH!

HE WANTS TO KNOW HOW YOU DID THAT.

SO DO I.

IT'S THE RUST. IT'S POISONOUS TO THE CALOT TREES.

A VALUABLE LESSON FROM DORGON'S TEACHINGS.

EVEN IN DEATH, HE SAVES US.

THANK YOU FOR COMING TO THE YOUNGLING'S AID.

LET'S MAKE CAMP AND GET SOME REST.

The Helium royal palace.

AHHHH!

THE LABS OF THE ROYAL PLACE ARE *MAGNIFICENT.*

RELEASE ME!

THANKS TO YOUR PEOPLE'S ABUNDANT RESOURCES, I CAN CREATE A RYKOR THAT ONLY EXISTED IN THEORY.

YOU SHOULD BE PROUD TO JOIN THE RANKS OF THE RYKOR.

THEY HAVE BEEN USED AS OUR VESSELS FOR *THOUSANDS* OF YEARS.

=GULP ACK=

FIRST STEP--REMOVE THAT HEAD OF YOURS.

=ACK! NO!=

AHHHHHHH!

SWOOOSH

OOOZOOO

CLANK!

WHOOOSH

VERY GOOD, NOW ON TO STEP TWO.

LORD MOAK!

I LEFT VERY SPECIFIC ORDERS *NOT* TO BE DISTURBED!

THIS ISN'T SOME AVERAGE RYKOR I'M BUILDING.

LORD MOAK, COME *QUICK!*

THIS IS *MY* RYKOR. IT WILL BE MOST POWERFUL CREATURE IN ALL OF BARSOOM!

WHAT IS SO VITAL THAT YOU WOULD RISK YOUR *LIFE* TO TELL ME?

IT'S THE ***QUEEN***, HER ***EGGS*** ARE HATCHING.

SHINK SHINK

!

NEEEHHH!

MY QUEEN!

I AM HERE.

EEEK EEEK EEEK

MY CHILDREN--

BEAUTIFUL.

=MMMMM=

IT SMELLS SO GOOD.

[alien speech]

HE SAID...

...HE SAID THAT MEANS IT'S *DONE*.

YOU CAN UNDERSTAND ME?

BUT HOW?

I'M A QUICK STUDY.

NOW I HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS.

WHO ARE YOU? ARE YOU ALONE? WHAT'S YOUR ***TRIBE?*** WHERE ***IS*** YOUR TRIBE!

ENOUGH.

GIVE HIM SOME ROOM. HE'S NOT OUR PRISONER TO INTERROGATE.

WELL APPARENTLY YOU ARE NOT MY *SUBJECT*, ANYMORE.

I'M STILL YOUR *FRIEND*.

HA HA HA HA HA!!!

HUDD. IT IS MY NAME AND I DO NOT MIND ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS.

I'M RROO AND THIS IS PRINCESS DEJAH THORIS.

ENOUGH PLEASANTRIES, WHY ARE YOU SO CLOSE TO HELIUM?

THE HUNTERS OF MY TRIBE AND I WERE OUT TRACKING A ZITIDAR.

WE HAVEN'T HAD MEAT FOR WEEKS AND WERE DESPERATE.

THAT'S WHY WE WERE SO CLOSE TO YOUR CITIES.

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN THE GREEN MEN THAT DORGON'S MEN SPOTTED.

MMMM, YES, THAT MUST HAVE BEEN THE RED SOLDIERS MY TRIBE ENCOUNTERED.

MY TRIBE FLED, WHILE I HID.

WE GOT SEPARATED.

IT WAS ***YOUR FAULT***. IT WAS ***YOUR FAULT*** THAT DORGON SENT HALF OF OUR ARMY AWAY.

CALM DOWN, DEJAH.

SOLDIERS THAT COULD HAVE HELPED DEFEAT THE KALDANES!

WAIT, WE MEANT NO ILL WILL TOWARD HELIUM.

WE'VE SPARED YOUR LIFE AND FILLED YOUR BELLY.

BUT I WANT YOU GONE BY SUNRISE.

BUZZ

BUZZ

THE HORROR! WHAT HAPPENED HERE, MOAK?!

NEW LIFE SPRANG FORTH AND FEASTED ON THE WEAK.

I--SEE.

WHEN WILL YOUR WHITE APES REACH THE PRINCESS?

I MUST HAVE WORD AS SOON AS SHE IS DEAD.

PERFECT TIMING, SENNEITH. MY CHILDREN ARE HUNGRY.

WHAT?!

DON'T WORRY, I HAVE *COMPLETE CONTROL* OVER THEM. I WON'T PUT YOU ON TODAY'S MENU.

HOWEVER, ANY OTHER LIVING THING IN THEIR PATH WILL BE DEVOURED.

I CAN *SEE* THROUGH THEIR EYES.

I'LL WITNESS THE WHITE APES *SOLVE* YOUR PRINCESS PROBLEM.

THEN THEY'LL *EAT* WHAT'S *LEFT*.

AWAKEN, DEJAH THORIS.

THUD!
AGH!

PRINCESS, PLEASE LEAVE THE YOUNGLING ALONE.

HE TRIED TO CUT MY THROAT IN MY SLEEP!

[illegible]?

WHY WOULD I ***ALERT YOU*** TO MY PRESENCE BEFORE ***KILLING YOU!?***

THEN ***EXPLAIN*** WHAT YOU WERE ***DOING!***

I HEARD SOMETHING APPROACHING! I WAS TRYING TO ***WARN*** YOU!

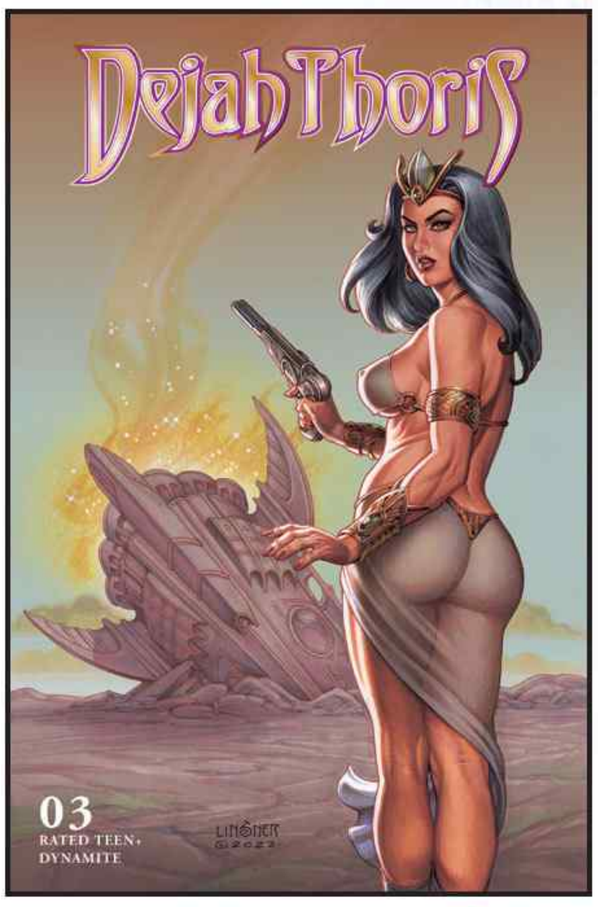
SCUDDLE

SQUISH

HA! I AM RELIEVED IT WAS ONLY A SPIDER.

RRRRAAHHH!

To be continued...



NEXT ISSUE

The early adventures of Dejah continue! If the young princess survive flesh-eating spiders and land-shifting sandstorms, she'll need to catch her breath quick to do battle with the bloodthirsty Banth monsters!

ELVIRA'S MOVIE MULTIVERSE ADVENTURES CONTINUE! DAVID AVALLONE INTRODUCES THE MONSTERS!

David, you may well now be the ultimate Elvira chronicler across media, beyond the Mistress of the Dark herself of course! What does it mean to continue to channel her (nearly) inimitable persona?

It's the best compliment I get about these comics: people telling me that my Elvira sounds exactly like the real one, the one they know so well. Most of the credit for that goes to Cassandra Peterson. She created a character so absolutely indelible that it's not hard (pun not intended) to channel that voice. In any given situation, you can imagine what Elvira would say or do. The trick to it is coming up with situations that give her the opportunity to do her thing in the best possible way. And of course, Cassandra reads all the scripts and makes suggestions for tweaks. That said, she has been very kind and supportive of my writing.

Our last Elvira series had her in "Horrorland" hopping between realities that mirrored everyone's favorite beloved horror flicks of the past. This new series is still tapping into that Multiverse of Movies concept, right? Now with the subtitle of"Monsterland," how is the idea shifting here?

In the last series, Elvira was bopping around the Multiverse of Movies with no real plan other than a desire to get home…complicated by her desire to interfere in the stories of horror movies. In Monsterland… her longtime archenemy Vlad the Impaler is the one travelling through the Multiverse, with a nefarious plan… and the Mistress of the Dark is tasked with finding out what he's up to and stopping him. She gets the assignment from the Novazone Express, a parody of the Nova Police from William Burroughs' Nova Express. Because comics need more Burroughs references, I guess. More William to go with the Edgar Rice.

The one and only Dracula, often going more by Vlad the Impaler here, is back again! Fans who have been following yours and Dynamite's Elvira stories from the beginning in 2018 should be excited to have him popping up! What is his evil plan?

I don't want to give away Vlad's plan (spoilers!) but I think smart readers may figure out what he's up to. And how – just like in the very first Dynamite Elvira comics – Vlad isn't necessarily the "brains" of the operation. Who has set him loose to plunder the Multiverse of Movies? What are they after? Stay tuned!

Without spoiling what we're all cooking for this book, do you think you have a bunch more awesome Elvira yarns left to tell still?

It's a funny thing: when I was offered this job originally, I really didn't know what I was going to do with the character. Then artist Dave Acosta, who did the first series with me, reminded me that it was a comedy, and to lean hard into that. Elvira always works as the outsider commenting on the craziness of horror films, so there's really no end in sight. There will always be more fright flicks, and Elvira will always be there to laugh with them, at them… and in this case, in them.

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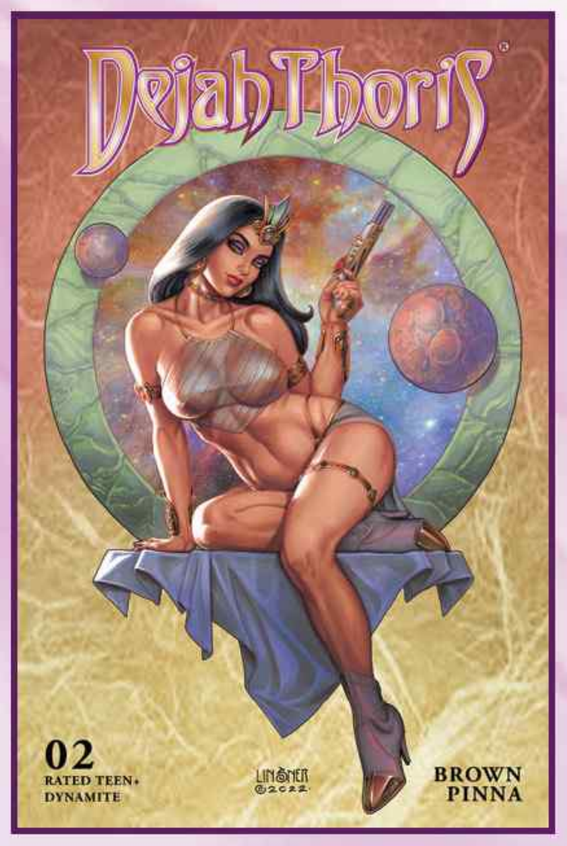

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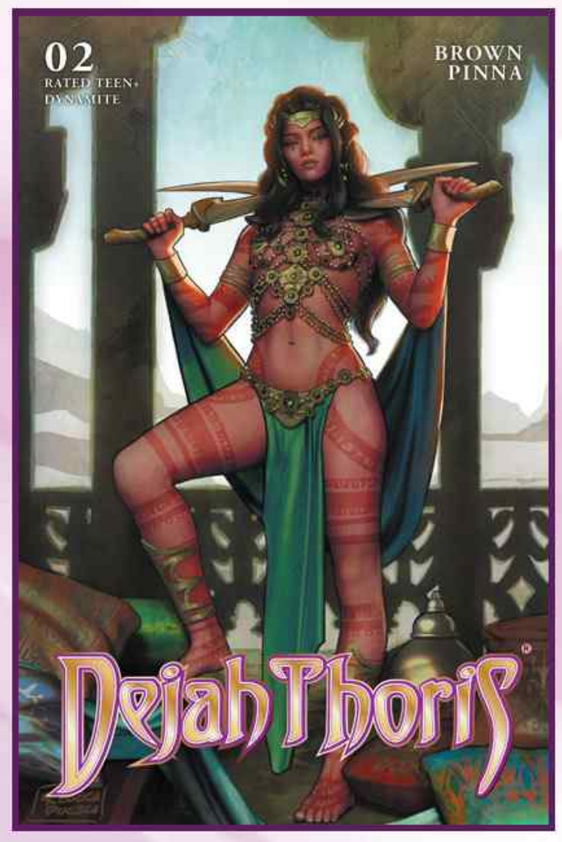

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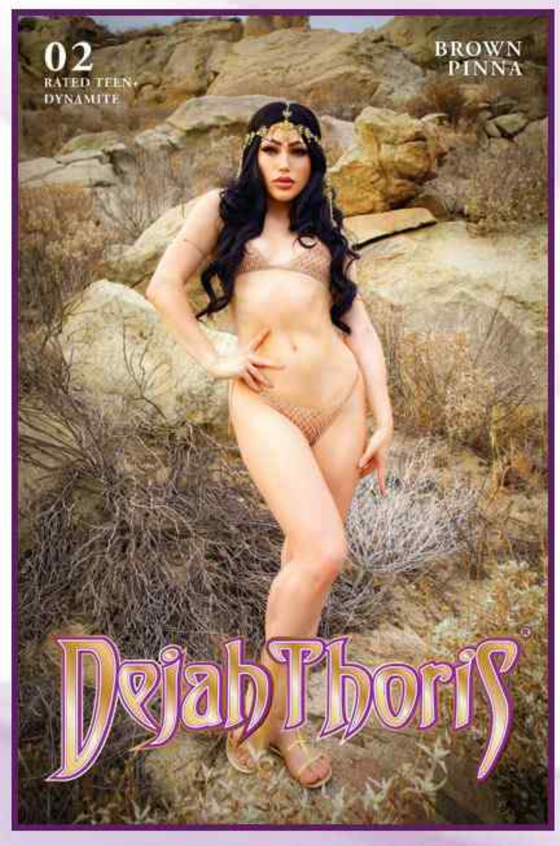

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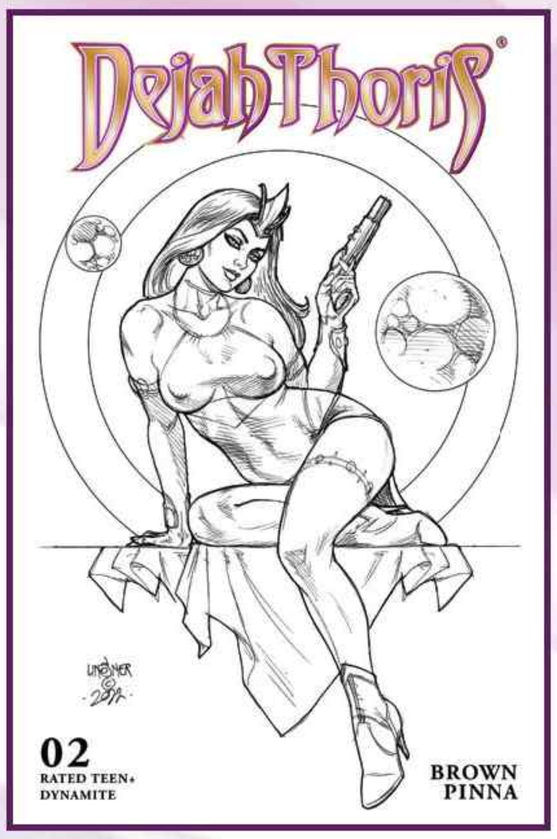

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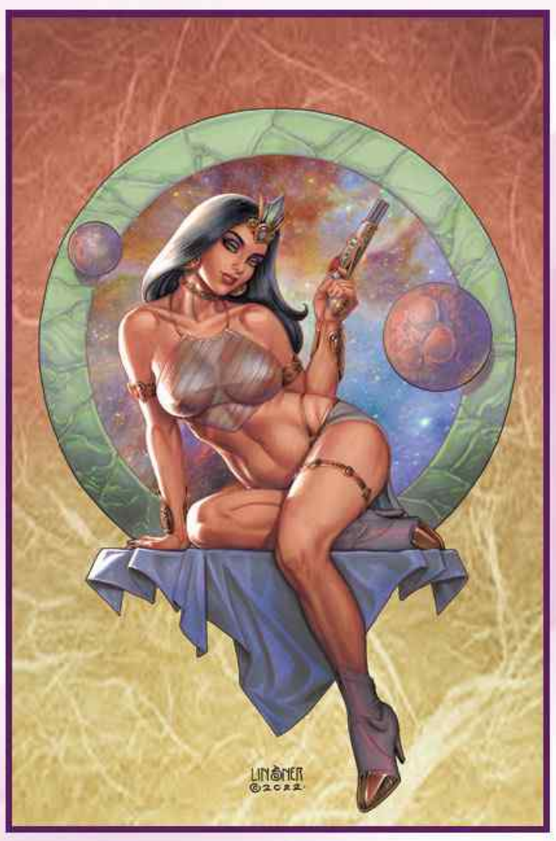

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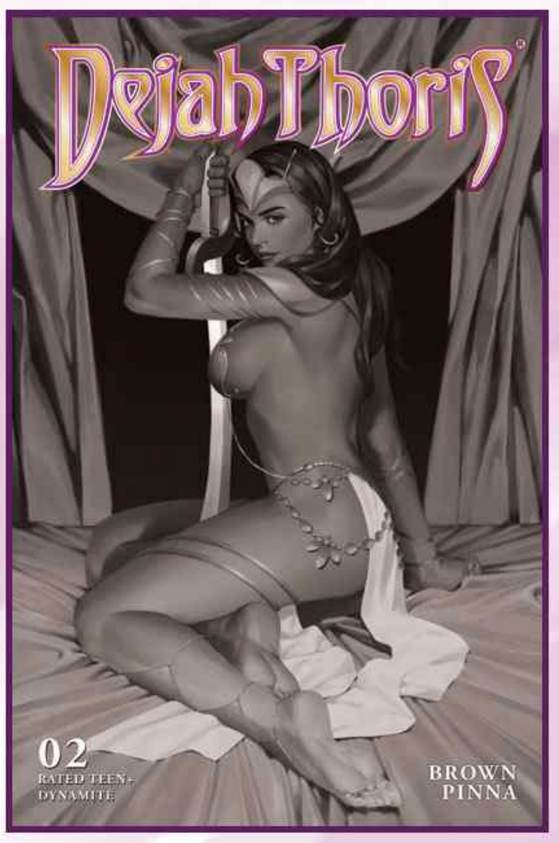

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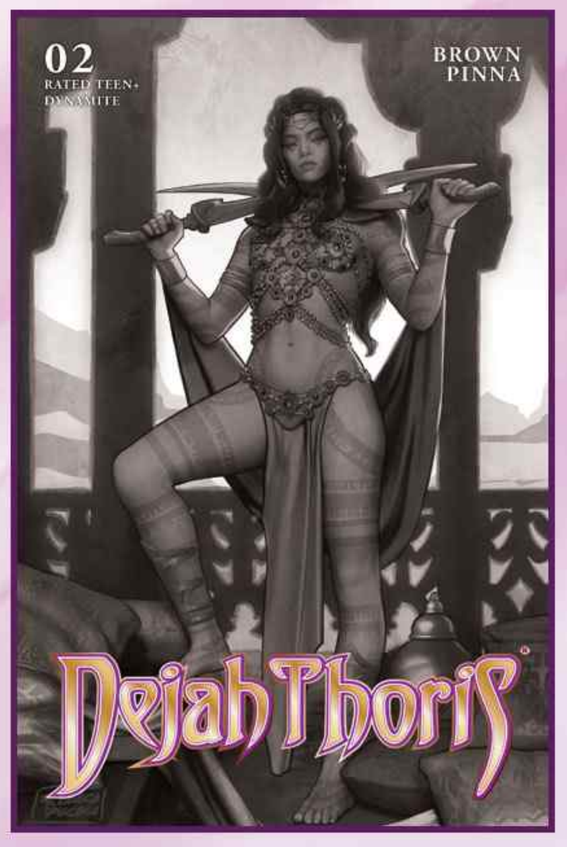

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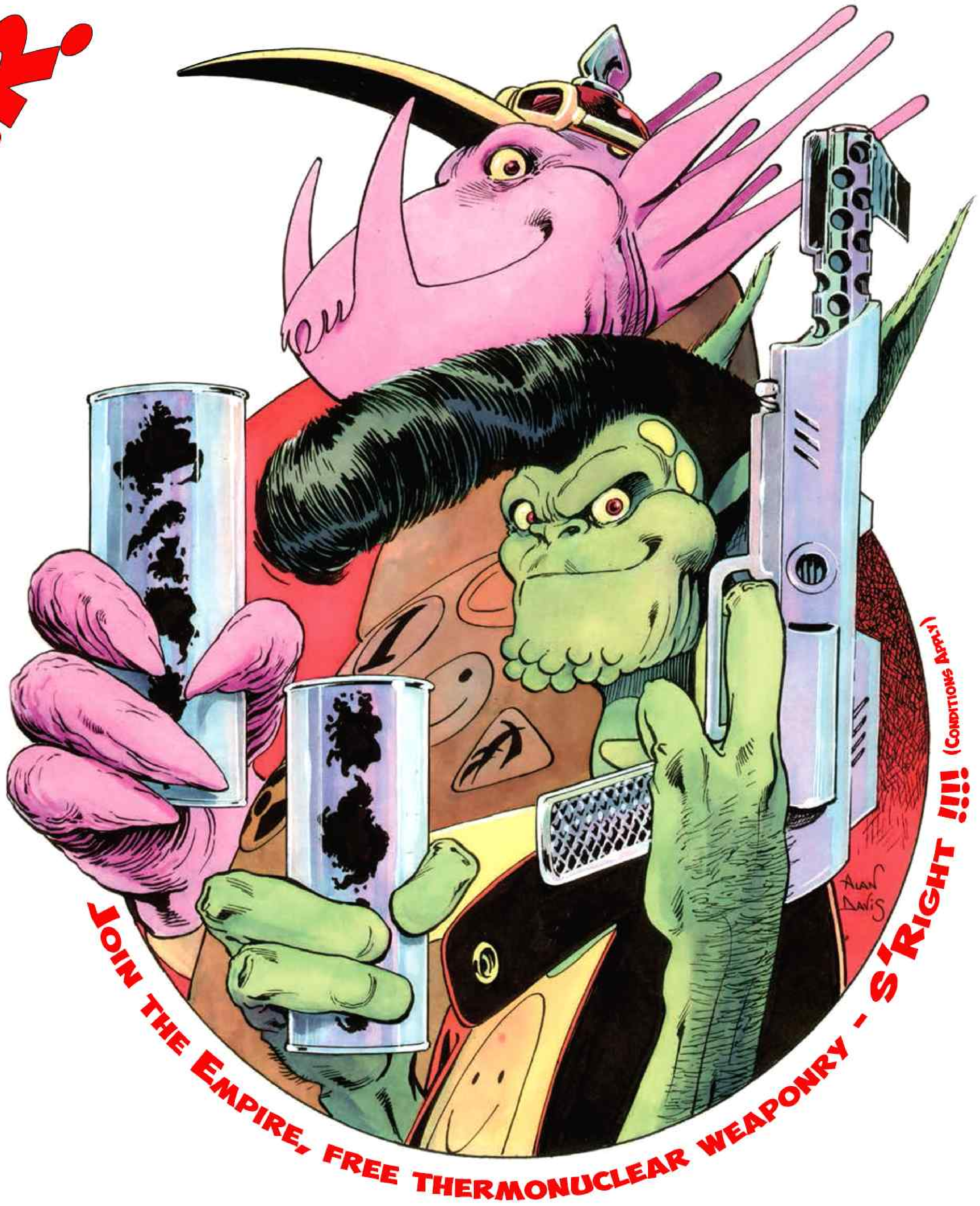

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